

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01592 122331Z

73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 OES-05 NSF-02 SSO-00 /022 W

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O 122206Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3417

UNCLAS BOGOTA 1592

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: TGEN, CO

SUBJ: S/T CONFERENCE

REF: BOGOTA 1288, STATE 017393, BOGOTA 0875, CONN-BROWN

TELECON OF FEB. 10

1. DR. ROJAS HAS RECEIVED TICKET TO TRAVEL TO AND FROM SUBJECT CONFERENCE. TICKET AS CABLED WAS VALID FOR ONE YEAR AT A COST OF \$490.00 PLUS \$3.00 U. S. TAX PLUS \$30.00 COLOMBIAN TAX TOTALING \$523.00. WE CHANGED TICKET TO EXCURSION FARE (MINIMUM/AVAILULLE) GOOD FOR 150 DAYS WHICH COST \$384.00 PLUS \$3.00 U. S. TAX PLUS \$21.12 COLOMBIAN TAX. TOTALING \$408.12 OR A SAVING OF \$114.88.

2. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO REACH DR. PIEDRAHITA AND ASK HIM TO CHECK HIS TICKET TO SEE IF A SIMILAR ERROR WAS MADE AND, IF SO, TO CHANGE HIS TICKET. UNFORTUNATELY DR. BELTRAN HAS ALREADY DEPARTED FOR THE U. S. TO ATTEND AN INDUSTRIAL FAIR IN CHICAGO. YOU MAY WISH TO CHECK TICKETS OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS TO DETERMINE IF ERROR WAS REPEATED THROUGHOUT. WE UNDERSTAND TICKETS CANNOT BE CHANGED ONCE TRAVEL COMMENCES.

3. PER COMM-BROWN TELECON, WE TOLD ROJAS TO APPLY FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF COLOMBIAN EXIT AND AIRPORT TAXES AT CONFERENCE. LESS THAN NORMAL PER DIEM OF \$30.00 PER DAY AS OPPOSED TO USUAL \$40.00 PER DAY FOR IV OF GRANTEES. GIVEN \$24.00 PER DAY HOTEL BILL, WILL ASSURE OUT-OF-UNCLASSIFIED

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POCKET EXPENSES FOR PARTICIPANTS. WHILE THIS PERSONAL

COST MAY BE ABSORVED MORE EASILY BY SOME PARTICIPANTS
THAN OTHERS, DR. ROJAS WILL EXPERIENCE HARDSHIP. EMBASSY
WOULD HOPE THAT DR. ROJAS' APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT
OF TRAVEL COSTS WOULD BE VIEWED SYMPATHETICALLY,
ESPECIALLY SINCE WE HAVE ALREADY SAVED \$114.88 ON COST
OF HIS TRANSPORTATION. IF TICKET ERROR WAS REPEATED
THROUGHOUT AND COULD BE CORRECTED, SAVINGS OF ALMOST
\$2,000.00 COULD RESULT WHICH COULD EVEN ALLOW
LIBERALIZATION OF PER DIEM.
VAKY

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NNN

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